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1638

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Richard A. Dixon, et al.

Application Serial No. 09/926,571

35 U.S.C. 371

Completion Date: November 28, 2001

International

Filing Date: May 15, 2000

International

Application No: PCT/US00/013389

Confirmation No: 8964

Group Art Unit 1638

For:

ISOFLAVONOID METHYLATION ENZYME

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: **October 27, 2003** (Date of deposit)

Karen L. Knezek

Registration No. 39,253

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature

Date of Signature: **October 27, 2003**

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Applicants are responding to the Office Action dated October 3, 2003 in the above-captioned patent application. Claims 1-50 are pending in the application. Claims 1-50 are subject to a restriction/election requirement.

The present Office Action requires an election of one of the following claim groups, the Examiner indicating that the respective claim groups are drawn to distinct inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-14, 36-38 and 43-46, drawn to a method of increasing 4-O-methylated isoflavonoid compounds in a transformed plant and a method of increasing disease resistance in a plant.